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**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Iwao SAIKATSU et al.**

Group Art Unit: **1714**

Application Number: **10/724,366**

Examiner: **Vickey M. Ronesi**

Filed: **December 1, 2003**

Confirmation Number: **8101**

For: **NON-ASBESTOS-BASED FRICTION MATERIALS**

Attorney Docket Number: **032126**

Customer Number: **38834**

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**  
**EXPEDITED PROCESSING REQUESTED**

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 14, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 22, 2006, Applicants amend the claims as follows and submit the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.